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Adventure COMICS

STARRING

LEGION ACADEMY

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RATED T TEEN

JUL 2011

31ST CENTURY, ON THE GROUNDS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PHLON:
COULDN'T WE JUST TURN THEM OVER TO THE SCIENCE POLICE?
GRAVITY KID
A.K.A: TEL VOLE
HOMEWORLD: EARTH
ABILITIES: CHANGE PERSONAL GRAVITY OR NEARBY GRAVITY
NOT WITHOUT EVERYONE SEEING HOW MY DAD GAVE AWAY MY GENE MOD TO THE TAURUS GANG.
WE HAVE TO GIVE GLORITH A CHANCE TO FIX IT!
DON'T PUT EVERYTHING ON LITTLE MISS MAGIC'S SHOULDERS, HADRU.
CHEMICAL KID
A.K.A: HADRU JAMIK
HOMEWORLD: PHLON
ABILITIES: CATALYZE CHEMICAL REACTIONS
DRAGONWING
A.K.A: MARVA PAI
HOMEWORLD: EARTH
ABILITIES: FIREBREATH AND ACID VENOM

First Hints

PAUL LEVITZ & GERALDO BORGES Storytellers
MARLO ALQUIZA Inker JOHN J. HILL Letterer HI-FI Colorist
PHIL JIMENEZ with HI-FI Cover
DARREN SHAN Assistant Editor BRIAN CUNNINGHAM Editor

FWOOSH
WHILE SHE'S BABYSITTING THE SLEEPING THUGS, SOME OF US ARE WORKING.
NO ALARMS?
I THOUGHT YOU SAID PHLON'S GREATEST TREASURES WERE HERE?
IT'S A UNIVERSITY, NOT A BANK. WOULD YOU ADJUST YOUR MEDS?
I'M NOT...
HE'S TEASING YOU, TEL.
THIS WAY.
WHOA--I THOUGHT HE WAS BURIED ON SHANGHALLA, LIKE THE OTHER DEAD LEGIONNAIRES!
MOSTLY... BUT NOT THE BEST BITS.
UP. CREEPY.
CHEMICAL KING
IN MEMORIUM

HMM... INERT...GUESS THEY WANTED IT TO LAST FOREVER...
ALLOW ME.
I FEEL LIKE I HAVEN'T BEEN PULLING MY...
...WEIGHT...
OWW. NOT FUNNY.
THUNK
EFFECTIVE, THOUGH.
RAW GENES FOR ALL ARLIK'S CHARACTER-ISTICS--
--INCLUDING HIS ORIGINAL MUTATION DAD BASED MY GENE MOD ON!

I DON'T GET IT...WHY DID GLORITH NEED THE ORIGINAL GENES WHEN SHE HAD YOUR GENE MOD RIGHT THERE?
AS LONG AS MAGIC MAKES SENSE TO *HER*, I DON'T NEED TO GET IT.
I NEVER HEARD OF A *SCIENTIFIC* WAY TO REVERSE A GENE MOD!
...WITHOUT *KILLING* THE SUBJECT, ANYHOW.
TOL' YA WE SHOULD KILL THEM.
SO MUCH *SIMPLER*.

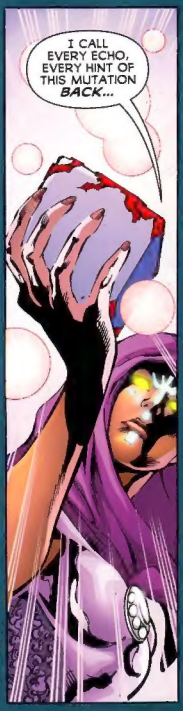
I THOUGHT POWER BOY WAS OUR BEST IN CLASS-- DISTINCTIVE POWERS, COURAGE--
--A LOT OF WHAT THE LEGION NEEDS.
STANDARDS CHANGE, LYDDA-- THEY'D NEVER LET ME IN THESE DAYS.
THANK THE TRIPLE SUNS, CHUCK--
BOUNCING BOY
A.K.A.: CHUCK TAINE
HOMEWORLD: EARTH
ABILITIES: INFLATION AND BOUNCING
NIGHT GIRL
A.K.A.: LYDDA JATH
HOMEWORLD: KATHOON
ABILITIES: SUPER-STRENGHT ACTIVATED IN DARKNESS
DUPLICATE GIRL
A.K.A.: LUORNU DURGO
HOMEWORLD: CARGG
ABILITIES: ABLE TO SPLIT INTO MULTIPLE BODIES
--IT'S DEADLY OUT THERE.
I KNOW, I KNOW.
BUT THERE'S STRENGTH IN NUMBERS, TOO.
WE HAVE TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET THE LEGION WHAT THEY NEED!

...NEED TO ARRANGE THINGS PROPERLY FOR THIS TO WORK.
GLORITH
HOMEWORLD: UNKNOWN
ABILITIES: MANIPULATE MAGICAL ENERGIES
I'VE NEVER DONE A SPELL OF SIMILARITY ON SOMETHING MICROSCOPIC BEFORE.
FWOOSH
JUST DO IT.
MAGIC HAS RULES AND RITUALS, MARYA, AND WITHOUT THEM IT FAILS.
I HAVE BEEN LEARNING SINCE I WAS A BABY...
...AND THE FIRST LAW IS NO SHORT CUTS.

UNHHH... WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING, WITCH...

LETTING YOU WAKE UP.

I NEED YOU CONSCIOUS FOR THIS.
EVERY CELL IN YOUR BODY SHOULD FEEL THIS.
READY.
HERE.


I CALL EVERY ECHO, EVERY HINT OF THIS MUTATION *BACK*...

...AND OUT OF YOUR BODY AND SOUL.

AyEEIIII!
GERARDO SANDOVAL 2011

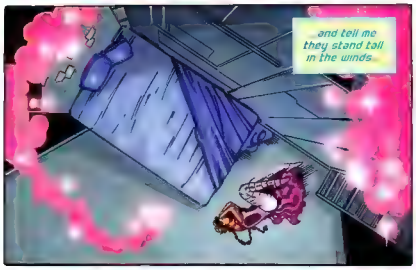
...ON PHLON, THE SCIENCE POLICE REPORT THE CAPTURE OF BLACK MACE AND A PORTION OF THE TAURUS GANG, WHO WERE APPARENTLY ENGAGING IN GENE-RUNNING...
COSMIC BOY
AKA: ROKK KRINN
HOMEWORLD: BRAAL
ABILITIES: MAGNETISM MANIPULATION
HMMM... NOT BAD...
NEW KIDS ARE SHOWING SOME POTENTIAL ALREADY, LYDDA.
AT RULE-BREAKING, ANYWAY.
YOU SQUARE IT WITH LUORNU AND I'LL WORK IT OUT WITH THE SCIENCE POLICE TO CLEAN UP THEIR RECORDS... AGAIN...
...SORT OF REMINDS ME OF GARTH WHEN WE WERE STARTING OUT.

NOTHING LIKE THE FEEL OF A FULL CREDIT CHIP AGAIN!
Y-YOU DIDN'T TAKE A REWARD--
I THINK I'M GOING TO RENAME YOU "CAREFUL KID."
OF COURSE NOT.
WE'RE NOT ALLOWED, RIGHT?
NOTHING STOPPING MY DAD FROM TAKING IT FOR TESTIFYING, THOUGH, IS THERE?
HE'S SUCH A GOOD SHARER.

SPEAKING OF SHARING-- WHERE DID YOU GET ALL THAT ENERGY TO NEUTRALIZE THE SLOWDOWN EFFECT AND WAKE US ALL UP?
YOU LOOKED AS OUT AS THE REST OF US.
I-I'M NOT SURE...
...BUT IT FELT FAMILIAR, AS THOUGH IT CAME FROM MY TEACHER...
...AT WHAT COST I CANNOT IMAGINE.
MYSA CARRIES A BURDEN OF WHICH SHE WILL BARELY SPEAK.
I ONLY PRAY REACHING OUT TO HELP ME IN OUR NEED DIDN'T MAKE IT WORSE.

Please, dear Harlak, write and reassure me that Myga did not damage herself helping me ..I cannot believe her power could reach this far ..
but I suppose it simply shows how much I have to learn

I still am not sure why I was sent here, but at least my new friends seem convinced of my power and worth, and seem to place great store in those qualities
I, on the other hand, miss the gentler magics of home and our floating towers gaze at them for me



A COMET'S TALE

ONE PIECE AT A TIME.
ONE STEP TOWARDS PEACE AT A TIME.
CONNECTING THE PAST. THE FUTURE...
...AND ME.
XS
A.K.A. JENNI OGNATS
HOMEWORLD: AAROK
ABILITIES: SUPER-SPEED
MOSAIC
Paul Levitz Writer
Jeffrey Moy Penciller
Philip Moy Inker
John J. Hill Letterer
Hi-Fi Colorist
Darren Shan Assistant Editor
Brian Cunningham Editor

IT'S LOVELY, BUT FOR THE WORLD'S FASTEST WOMAN, YOU'RE MOVING VERY *SLOWLY*, AREN'T YOU?
NIGHT GIRL
AKA LYDDA JATH
HOMEWORLD KATHOON
ABILITIES SUPER-STRENGTH ACTIVATED IN DARKNESS
NIGHT GIRL, RIGHT?
GUESS I'M PACING MYSELF, THESE DAYS.
WHAT BRINGS YOU TO LAKE TANA? THE BLUE NILE'S A LONG WAY FROM METROPOLIS FOR A LEGIONNAIRE.
ROKK--COSMIC BOY--SECONDED ME TO THE LEGION ACADEMY WHEN WE BROKE UP.
HE CLAIMED IT WAS SO IMPORTANT TO DEVELOP A NEW GENERATION OF LEGIONNAIRES QUICKLY, AFTER WE WERE OVERWHELMED IN THE XENOPHOBE REVOLUTION...
...BUT IT FELT MORE LIKE HE NEEDED ME OUT OF SIGHT.

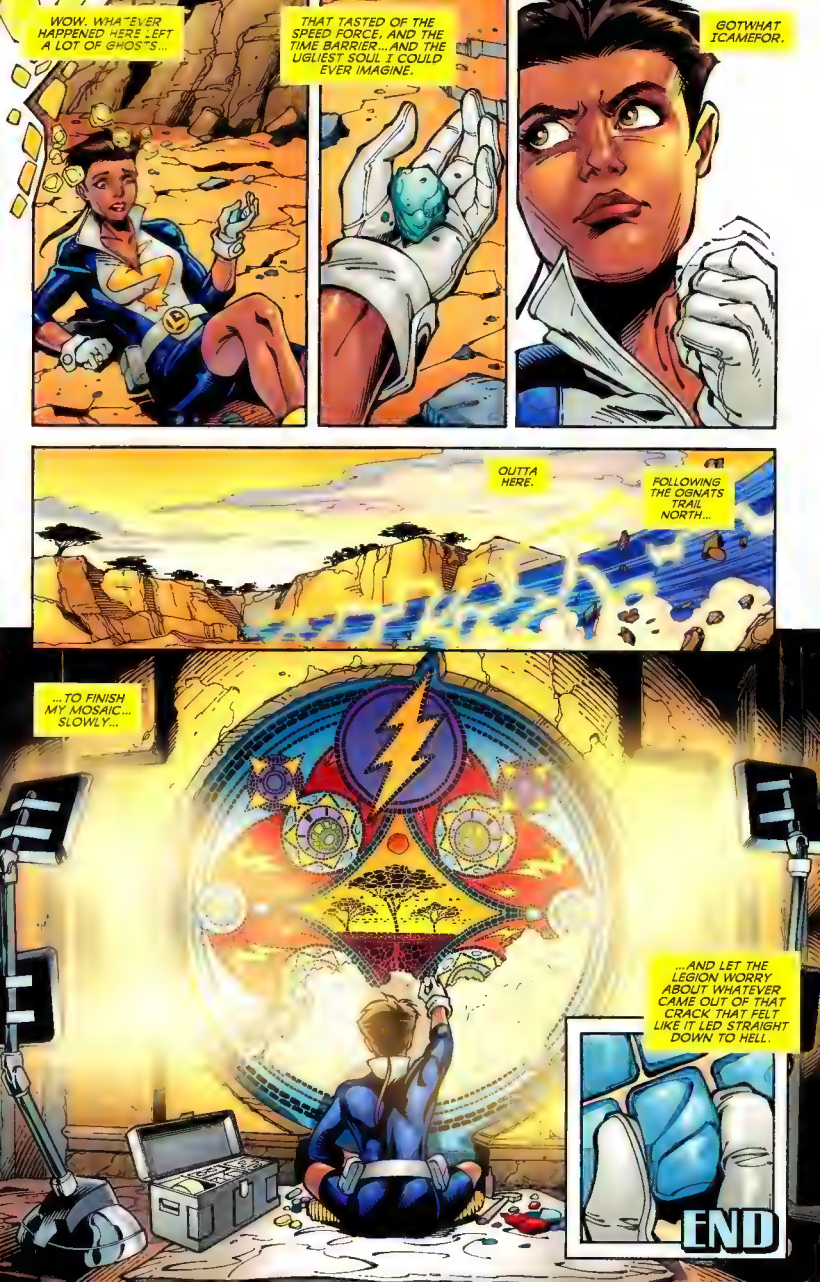
HE HURT THAT BAD WHEN YOU DUMPED HIM?
NO...
HE DUMPED ME SO HE COULD CONCENTRATE TOTALLY ON THE LEGION...
...AND I GUESS I WAS STILL DISTRACTING.
OH.
BUT THAT'S AN OLD WOUND I SHOULDN'T PICK AT...
I'M HERE ON HAPPIER BUSINESS.
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME TO THE LEGION ACADEMY?
M-ME...?
BUTIALREADY WASALEGIONNAIRE?!

NO, NOT LIKE THAT--PLEASE DON'T BE INSULTED.
WE THOUGHT YOU COULD DO A CRASH COURSE IN THE OPPONENTS *OUR* LEGION HAS FACED, AND ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANTED TO LEARN ABOUT OUR WORLD...
...AND AT THE SAME TIME HELP TRAIN THE RECRUITS.
BETTER. LESSINSULTING.
STILLNOT APPEALING.
SOMEOTHER LIFETIME, MAYBE.
WHOOSH!

HASTY AGAIN, JENNI GIRL.
SHOULD'VE SAID "BEEN THERE, DONE THAT"--
--TRUTH IS, I KINDA SKIPPED THE WHOLE TRAINING BIT.
MIGHT HAVE BEEN NICE TO BOND WITH SOME CLASSMATES!
WOOSH
NOT WHAT I'M HERE FOR, THOUGH. THIS IS FAMILY BUSINESS.
SKREECH
OLDUVAI GORGE. I GUESS YOU COULD SAY BOTH SIDES OF MY FAMILY STARTED HERE, BEFORE THEY PART WAYS ON THE LONG WALK...

PERFECT SPOT TO PICK A STONE OR TWO FOR THE CENTER OF MY MOSAIC.
THEN BUILD OUTWARD TO THE SPOTS THE ALLEN AND OGNATS ANCESTORS CAME FROM...
...AND SOMETHING SHOOK A LOT OF ROCK LOOSE HERE.
WHOOAA...

AEEEI!!


WOW. WHA"EVER HAPPENED HERE LEFT A LOT OF GHOS"TS...
THAT TASTED OF THE SPEED FORCE, AND THE TIME BARRIER...AND THE UGLIEST SOUL I COULD EVER IMAGINE.
GOTWHAT ICAMEFOR.
OUTTA HERE.
FOLLOWING THE OGNATS TRAIL NORTH...
...TO FINISH MY MOSAIC... SLOWLY...
...AND LET THE LEGION WORRY ABOUT WHATEVER CAME OUT OF THAT CRACK THAT FELT LIKE IT LED STRAIGHT DOWN TO HELL.
END

BRIAN CUNNINGHAM EDITOR & DARREN SHAN ASSISTANT EDITOR

Hey, Legion Fans! We got a lot of letters on the Legion Academy and the opinion seems to be unanimous: you all love it! We're gonna keep the answers short and let you guys do most of the talking:

Dear Brian and Darren,

Somewhere in my boxes of comics collected over the years is a frayed issue of ADVENTURE COMICS that featured the first appearance of the Taurus Gang. While their subsequent appearances in Legion titles have been few and far between, I've always thought they were a fascinating yet motley crew of villains compared to other Legion baddies like the LSV or Universo. With "First Night" the Taurus Gang is elevated to a whole new level. Sure, they're still small-time crooks fighting with Legion wannabes in this issue, but thanks to a sharp script from Mr. Levitz and sparkling artwork by Phil Jimenez, they look great doing it!

Black Mace is tougher and badder than ever, and while Shagrek's abilities still need to be explained to new readers, the most striking transformation is in Mystelor. I've always thought she has a great name, while her telepathy and telekinesis makes her a formidable foe. Mr. Jimenez gave her a wild look to go with her powers. I can't wait to see how the Academy students will escape her mental clutches.

As for the rest of the issue, the opening scenes with an angry Luornu were excellent, the double-page spread of the Phlon landscape was eye-opening, and the scene with Cosmic Boy makes me wonder about the fates of the more advanced, well-behaved students.

How about a return for the Heroes of Lallor or the original Wanderers in either Legion title?

Neil Ahlquist
Minneapolis, MN

Yeah, we agree, Paul and Phil have definitely updated the Taurus Gang to a new and formidable level. Keep reading to see which villains show up next!

Hey, just wanted to say how much I'm enjoying ADVENTURE COMICS! I just finished reading ADVENTURE COMICS #524, and it rocked just like the rest of the series! Can't wait to see more of Green Lantern Mon-El. I hope we get a DC Direct figure; I would definitely buy one of those! I hope we get to see Mon-El travel back to the present and team up with and maybe learn from the best there is, fellow Daxamite Ion Sodam Yat. I hope we also get to see more of Superboy Prime again soon!!

Thanks!!
Kyle Benning
Waverly, IA

Glad you're digging it, Kyle! You can see more of Mon-El as the newest Green Lantern AND Legion leader in current issues of LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES.

Hello, all,

First of all Paul Levitz, Phil Jimenez, Andy Lanning, Swands and Hi-Fi working together on this book is beyond amazing! I don't think we could have asked for or expected a better creative team on this book.

I'm going to take things as they come with my impressions of this issue. Luornu being hard on these kids makes more sense now that she's said she remembers losing herself when she was their age. I like that explanation and it grounds her somewhat in how she is handling all this, plus she has Chuck to balance her out by being the more lighthearted one.

Glorith is becoming more of an enigma, and I have to say that I am also very much liking this. The name doesn't bode well for her, but her mysterious origin unraveling slowly as it is makes me want to learn more about her. Not too fast, mind you, but as it's happening now is excellent.

Dr. Gym'll's nephew being Variable Lad was something I wasn't expecting. Yes, I knew they were of the same species, but this close a tie to the Legion's doctor is an excellent twist. Also there was an accident which I am going to assume gave him his powers, so another thing to explore as this series progresses.

So we knew that Chemical Kid was going to skip out and find out what was happening with his father; that's only natural. Seeing Phlon, however, as it's portrayed here was breathtaking. Seriously, the visuals were beyond anything I was expecting. Also learning about how he gained his powers with a nod to Condo was superb to see. I miss Condo and thought he never got a fair shake as a Legionnaire, so the fact that this snot-nosed little punk has his powers as a result of him adds another layer to him that I find fascinating. Genetic modification is an interesting development that raises so many questions about ethics and just what is possible in the 31st century. This is something that seems Mr. Levitz plans on exploring more, and I cannot wait.

Black Mace returns! The fight between the kids and him and his gang goes to show how much they have to learn. With more teamwork they could have taken this group out easily, but they are young. This was a wonderful example of what the Academy is for. Also thanks for the return of Black Mace Now, if this team can bring us Grimbor the Chainsman, I think I'd have a fanboy's dream.

So the graduating class would like to be in the Legion naturally I would say. Okay, the Legion needs them. They've proven themselves time and time again; I say let the four of them in! The team needs them, and they need the team.

ADVENTURE COMICS starring the Legion Academy is a must-read book for its writing and art. There is simply no better book on the market.

Steven Leitman
Cincinnati, OH

We couldn't have said it better ourselves, Steven!

That's it for this month! Come back next issue for a story on the Legion Academy's Comet Queen by Paul Levitz and Geraldo Borges!

Letters may be sent by regular mail to this address:

Letters to the Editor
DC Comics
1700 Broadway
New York, NY 10019

Please include your full name, address, and telephone number for confirmation purposes. Letters should be no longer than 500 words and should not include attachments. Letters may be edited for length or clarity and may be published in any medium. Letters become the property of DC Comics. Unpublished letters will not be returned or acknowledged. Published letters may identify the writer by first name, hometown, state or country.

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

THE MAN OF STEEL WAS THE WORLD'S FIRST SUPER-HERO AND THE GOLD STANDARD BY WHICH ALL OF THE OTHERS ARE JUDGED. HE FIRST APPEARED IN THE PAGES OF ACTION COMICS #1 RELEASED IN JUNE OF 1938. THIS MONTH MARKS THE RELEASE OF ACTION COMICS #900, A TRUE MILESTONE EVENT. CELEBRATE THE OCCASION BY READING THESE ESSENTIAL SUPERMAN GRAPHIC NOVELS.

ALL STAR SUPERMAN VOL. 1

Writer: Grant Morrison

Artist: Frank Quitely

Fueled by hatred and jealousy, Lex Luthor masterminds an elaborate plot to kill the Man of Steel – and it works. Poisoned by solar radiation, Superman is dying. With weeks to live, he fulfills his life's dreams – especially revealing his true identity to Lois Lane – until Luthor proclaims his ultimate plan to control the world with no alien hero to stop him.

ALL STAR SUPERMAN VOL. 2

Powers fading, Superman engages in a spectacular battle with Luthor that could truly trigger the end of Earth's Greatest Protector. The Man of Steel goes toe-to-toe with Bizarro, his imperfect duplicate, and the new Zibaro, also from the Bizarro planet.

SUPERMAN: SECRET ORIGIN

Writer: Geoff Johns

Artist: Gary Frank

The definitive origin of Superman for the 21st century! In this chronicle Clark Kent's journey from the cornfields of Smallville to the skyscrapers of Metropolis, you'll witness a whole new look at the beginnings of Lex Luthor, the Legion of Super-Heroes, Lois Lane, Metallo, Jimmy Olsen, the Parasite and more of your favorite characters from the Superman family!

Free Comic Book Day Is Here!!!

Hello again, DC Nation, and happy holidays to you. I know that most don't think of the beginning of May as the holiday season, but to us comics fans the start of summer is truly like Thanksgiving and Christmas all rolled into one. We get to see the movies we've waited all year for, go to huge conventions, read all of Flashpoint…and it all starts with Free Comic Book Day on Saturday, May 7. Free Comic Book Day (or FCBD if you're on one of our many, many e-mail threads about the subject) is one of the coolest ideas our industry has ever had. In case you don't know, FCBD is where you can go to any participating comic shop and pick up free comics from almost every publisher in the business. Sounds great, huh? Well, it is, and this year DC Comics is offering two pretty incredible books. Take a look:

Green Lantern Flashpoint Special Edition
(W) Geoff Johns (A) Ivan Reis, Andy Kubert

This is the perfect jumping-on point for new readers who can't wait to see the Green Lantern major motion picture from Warner Bros.! Discover how and why Hal received the power ring that changed his life forever with this reprinting of Green Lantern #30, a pivotal chapter of the Green Lantern: Secret Origin graphic novel by Geoff Johns and Ivan Reis. Plus: No comics fan can afford to miss this exclusive first sneak peek of Flashpoint, DC's blockbuster event of 2011, by the all-star team of Geoff Johns and Andy Kubert!

Young Justice/Batman: The Brave and the Bold Super Sampler
(W) Art Baltazar, Franco and Sholly Fisch
(A) Mike Norton, Rick Burchett

This super sampler is the perfect place to check out two sensational series from the DC Kids line, Young Justice and Batman: The Brave & the Bold, based on the popular animated series seen on Cartoon Network. It includes two exciting, all-new stories that readers of all ages will enjoy!

Pretty freaking cool, right? So get on out to your local comic shop on Saturday, May 7 and check out Free Comic Book Day. Tell them that DC sent you. Don't know where to find a comic shop near you? No problem! Check out: www.comicshoplocator.com for a store near you.

Enjoy your holiday
- Ian Sattler DC Comics

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